



The March 31 Strategic Plan Design Team meeting opened with a video narrated by Linda Darling-Hammond, titled [How PBL Taps Into the Science of Learning and Development](#). The Design Team members next formed small groups to answer the following question:

*What do schools and districts need to know and do in order to implement an innovative change that impacts teaching, learning, and leading? Reflect on instructionally focused collaboration, a trust-based culture, professional learning, district support, community connections, and resource management.*

This discussion was followed by feedback on [suggested vision statements](#) generated by the question: “Is this statement inspirational and aspirational?”

As a segue to the creation of an SUSD mission statement, the Design Team next reviewed the first portion of [Leading High Performance School Systems](#) by Marc Tucker. They then concentrated on possible mission statements. It was explained that a mission states the purpose of the organization. It provides a collective identity for an organization by clarifying why that organization exists. A mission also aligns with the organization’s vision and guides its deeds and accomplishments, motivating people within the organization to act. Next, the Design Team studied several organizations’ mission statements and viewed [Simon Sinek’s Ted Talk on The Power of Why](#). The meeting ended with a small group activity, resulting in the suggestion that mission statements be considered during the next meeting scheduled for April 14.